IN THE SPECIFICATION

In page 1, replace the Title with the following Title:

A2 --NICKEL MIXED HYDROXIDE, METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE SAME, AND THE USE THEREOF AS A CATHODE MATERIAL IN ALKALINE BATTERIES--

In page 1, below the Title, please add:

A3 --This application is the National Stage Application of PCT/EP99/09912, which claims a priority from German Applications 198 60 143.3 filed December 24, 1998, and 199 39 025.8, filed August 18, 1999.--

On page 1, above line 5, please add:

A4 --BACKGROUND --

On page 3, line 1, above the line beginning with "The invention...," add:

A5 --DESCRIPTION--

On page 9, below line 10, please add:

A6 --The examples below are illustrative examples in which all parts and percentages are by weight unless otherwise indicated --

On page 20, line 13, please add:

A7 --Although the present invention has been described in detail with reference to certain preferred versions thereof, other variations are possible. Therefore, the spirit and scope of the appended claims should not be limited to the description of the versions contained therein.--

In the Abstract, replace the Abstract with the following new Abstract, submitted herein on a separate page:

A8 -- NICKEL MIXED HYDROXIDE, METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE SAME, AND THE USE THEREOF AS A CATHODE MATERIAL IN ALKALINE BATTERIES

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention relates to a nickel mixed hydroxide with Ni as the main element and with a layer structure, comprising at least one element M_a from the group comprising Fe, Cr, Co, Ti, Zr and Cu which is present in two different oxidation states which differ by one electron in terms of the number of outer electrons; at least one element M_b from the group comprising B, Al, Ga, In and RE (rare earth metals) present in the trivalent oxidation state; optionally at least one element M_c from the

A8 Cont.

group comprising Mg, Ca, Sr, Ba and Zn present in the divalent oxidation state; apart from the hydroxide, at least one additional anion from the group comprising halides, carbonate, sulfate, oxalate, acetate, borate and phosphate in a quantity sufficient to preserve the electroneutrality of the mixed hydroxide; and water of hydration in a quantity which stabilizes the relevant structure of the mixed hydroxide.--

EP 0 950 650 A1